Approved For Release 2008/07/30 : CIA-RDP78B04555A000200070003-9

PRIORITY

TOP SECRET RUFF

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CITE NPIC 6942.
KH MISSION 1107 REVEALS A NEW RAIL LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN EAST CENTRAL CHINA WHICH WILL CUT MILEAGE IN HALF BETWEEN EAST CHINA AND CHUNGCHING. PRESENTLY THE RAIL DISTANCE BETWEEN CHUNGCHING AND WUHAN IS 1,320 MILES; THE NEW LINE WILL REDUCE THE MILEAGE TO APPROXIMATELY 640 MILES. FOUR AREAS OF ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION ARE OBSERVED.
AREA 1 IS IN THE VICINITY OF CHUNGCHING. THIS MISSION REVEALS THAT THE NEW LINE WILL CONNECT WITH THE EXISTING CHUNGCHING-CHENGTU RAIL LINE AT 29-21N 106-22E AND IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION NORTH TO 29-48N 106-27E. BETWEEN 29-31N 106-22E AND 29-43N 106-23E AN EXISTING METER-GGUGE LINE IS BEING IMPROVED AND WIDENED TO STANDARD GAUGE. A WORK BRIDGE AND A RAIL BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION SPAN THE CHIALING CHINAG (RIVER) AT 29-48N 106-27E. INITIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE LINE IN THIS AREA BEGAN IN AUGUST 1968.
AREA 2 IS IN THE TAHSIEN VICINITY. MISSION 1107 REVEALS PRELIMINARY ROADBED GRADING, BRIDGE PIER CONSTRUCTION, PROBABLE TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION, AND NUMEROUS CONSTRUCTION CAMPS ALONG A 50 NAUTICAL MILE AREA BETWEEN 30-48N 107-00E AND 31-25N 107-47E. A BRIDGE PIER UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND SLIGHT SCARRING WAS OBSERVED AT 31-25N 107-47E IN NOVEMBER 1968.
AREA 3 IS IN THE VICINITY OF KUANGHUA. THIS MISSION REVEALS A BRIDGE AT 32-14N 111-41E, FIRST OBSERVED UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN DECEMBER 1968, TO BE COMPLETE AND ALSO SHOWS THAT PRELIMINARY GRADING FOR THE ROAD BED HAS STARTED AND EXTENDS FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH THE EXISTING LINE AT 32-14N 111-43E GENERALLY WESTWARD TO 32-17N 111-29E.
AREA 4 IS BETWEEN TAHO AND NANYANG. CONSTRUCTION NOW EXTENDS FROM TAHO AT 33-34N 114-01E SOUTHWEST TO NANYANG AT 33-01N 112-33E. FROM 33-01N 112-30E TO 33-27N 113-16E CONSTRUCTION GENERALLY FOLLOWS A PREVIOUSLY ABANDONED RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND THEN FOLLOWS A NEW ALIGNMENT TO 33-34N 114-01E. NO CONSTRUCTION WAS OBSERVED ON HIS SEGMENT PRIOR TO JULY 1969.
MAP REF: USAF JN 37, SCALE 1:2,000,000, 5TH EDITION JUNE 1967

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ADVANCE CY SANITIZED WITH TEXT

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--END OF MESSAGE--

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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